



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	<i>Application Number</i>	09/993,501
	<i>Filing Date</i>	27 November 2001
	<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Norman G. ANDERSON
	<i>Group Art Unit</i>	1634
	<i>Examiner Name</i>	Frank Wei Min Lu
	<i>Attorney Docket No.</i>	2316-149
<i>Title of the Invention:</i> DETECTION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF MICROORGANISMS		

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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FEB 19 2003
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 20, 2002, please amend the subject application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Replace the paragraph [0001] of the specification of record with the following replacement paragraph. No new matter has been added.

[0001] The present application is a continuation application of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/666,836 filed 21 September 2000, which is a divisional of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/571,274, filed 16 May 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,340,570, which is a divisional of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/265,541, filed 9 March 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,254,834, each incorporated herein by reference. The present application is further related to U.S.